

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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SAM-01 DRC-01 /140 W

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R 290825Z AUG 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2314

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJECT: RUMORS ON CENTRAL COMMITTEE DIRECTIVES

1. USLO HAS PICKED UP SEVERAL RUMORS CONCERNING RECENT CENTRAL COMMITTEE DIRECTIVES WHICH, ALTHOUGH ALL SUBJECT TO SUSPICION, BEAR WATCHING. MOST SIGNIFICANT IS STORY OF MEXICAN MINISTER, A CHINESE LANGUAGE SPEAKER, WHO WAS ASKED BY LATIN AMERICAN COLLEAGUE TO TRANSLATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DIRECTIVE NUMBER 24. DOCUMENT REACHED LATIN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT IN A LETTER HE RECEIVED FROM HIS FAMILY. ENVELOPE APPARENTLY HAD BEEN OPENED AND LETTER REMOVED, WITH CENTRAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT INSERTED IN ITS PLACE.

2. DIRECTIVE 24 REPORTEDLY STATES THAT SECTIONS FROM THE SELECTED WORKS OF MAO TSE-TUNG AND THE PAMPHLET "LONG LIVE THE THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MAO" HAVE BEEN MISUSED TO ACCUSE MAO OF TAKING INCONSISTENT POSITION ON HISTORICAL EVENTS AND PARTICULARLY ON CONFUCIUS. PROBLEM WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DESCRIBED AS MOST ACUTE IN THREE OR FOUR SOUTHEAST CHINA

PROVINCES INCLUDING KWANGTUNG, KIANGSI AND FUKIEN.
DIRECTIVE ARGUES THAT IT WAS NOT MAO HIMSELF WHO USED
QUOTATIONS FROM CONFUCIUS, BUT RATHER HIS SECRETARIES,
NOTABLY CHEN PO-TA, WHO WERE THE GUILTY PARTIES. ALL OF
COLLECTED WORKS AND THE PAMPHLET CURRENTLY AT THE PRINTERS
OR IN BOOKSTORES WERE ALLEGEDLY ORDERED WITHDRAWN
FOR CORRECTION.

3. POLISH DIPLOMAT INFORMED US THAT COLLEAGUE HAS SEEN
POSTERS APPEARING IN CH'EN MEN AREA DEMANDING THAT PLA
OBSERVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE INSTRUCTION NUMBER 23.
THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF WHAT THE CONTENT OF THE DIRECTIVE
WAS, BUT APPARENTLY IT DEALT WITH MILITARY AFFAIRS.

4. COMMENT: REPORT OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE DIRECTIVE 24 HAS ALL
THE EARMARKS OF AN ANTI-COMMUNIST PLANT, POSSIBLY DONE IN
HONG KONG BY KMT SUPPORTERS. IF THAT IS WHAT IT IS,
HOWEVER, IT IS THE MOST SOPHISTICATED EFFORT THUS FAR. WE
HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO CHECK THE BOOKSTORES AND REPORT THIS
ONLY BECAUSE THE STORY IS FAIRLY WIDESPREAD IN PEKING AND
MAY SURFACE IN HONG KONG.
BRUCE

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